

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

Release () Excise () Deny

Exemptions ()
In Part () In Full ()
Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to ()
Date Declassify on Reason

92-21-4
6-48

NNNNVV ES2042ASA597
FR RUESBA
IE RUESAS #4245 2602115
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 172101Z SEP 79
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7096
INFO RUESBA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 4331
RUESDO/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 1710
BT
C

DECONTROL

UNCLASSIFIED

ASUNCION 4245

9/17/79

TO	ACT	INF	TO	ACT	INF
AME			ADM		
DCM			SY		
			NGOIC		
POL	3		PER		
ECOM			GSO		
POL/R			B&F		
CONS			CRU		
ICA			TCU		
LABOR			LEGAT		
SCI			DEA		
DAG			FAS		
MILGP			FAA		
			CHRON		
			RF		

Z.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, PA

SUBJECT: ALLEGED TORTURE OF ARGENTINE CITIZENS IN PARAGUAY

REF: ASUNCION 3704

1. EMBASSY HAS CONFIRMED THAT ENRIQUE OSVALDO LANDI AND HIS WIFE, OFELIA BADIE DE LANDI, ARE STILL BEING HELD BY PARAGUAYAN INVESTIGATIONS POLICE AFTER BEING DETAINED MORE THAN ONE MONTH AGO. IT ALSO SEEMS CLEAR THAT THESE TWO PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SEVERELY TORTURED BY TWO ARGENTINE SECURITY OFFICIALS AIDED BY THE PARAGUAYAN POLICE. THEIR THREE YEAR OLD SON, ENRIQUE LANDI, HAS DISAPPEARED. HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS HAVE ASKED THE GOP TO TURN THE CHILD OVER TO THEM FOR PROPER CARE. THE ORGANIZATIONS BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THE CHILD IS BEING TAKEN CARE OF IN THE HOME OF AN INVESTIGATIONS POLICE OFFICIAL. THE HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS ALSO HAVE INFORMATION THAT THE LANDIS WERE INVOLVED IN SOME TYPE OF ILLICIT POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.

2. JUAN CARLOS SILVA AND HIS FATHER, RAMON SILVA, HAVE BEEN RELEASED BY THE POLICE AND THEY HAVE TOLD THE COMITE DE IGLESIAS THAT THEY WERE NOT TORTURED. IN ADDITION, THERE IS GOOD INFORMATION THAT SEVERAL OTHER ARGENTINE CITIZENS HAVE BEEN EXILLED FROM PARAGUAY.

3. OUR BEST INFORMATION INDICATES THAT URUGUAYAN SECURITY FORCES WERE NOT INVOLVED IN THESE ACTIVITIES AND THAT THE ONLY URUGUAYAN CITIZENS DETAINED WERE SPOUSES OF SOME OF THE ARGENTINE NATIONALS.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY'S JUDGEMENT IS THAT THE DETENTION OF ARGENTINE CITIZENS WAS ONLY CONNECTED WITH THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LANDI COUPLE AND HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH VISITS BY HIGH LEVEL ARGENTINE OFFICIALS SUCH AS GENERAL VIOLA. EMBASSY IS ADDING THE NAMES OF LANDI AND HIS WIFE TO ITS LIST OF POLITICAL

PRISONERS.

WHITE

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

UNCLASSIFIED

81F18Y
42/48